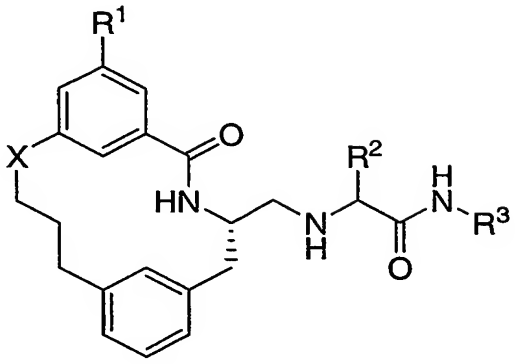
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of the formula I:



I

wherein:

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) hydrogen,

(2) R^4-$S(O)_pN(R^5)$-,

wherein R^4 is independently selected from the group consisting of:

(a) -C_{1-8}alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-6 fluoro,

(b) -NR^5R^6,

(c) phenyl, and

(d) benzyl,

wherein R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from the group consisting of:

(a) hydrogen,

(b) -C_{1-6}alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-6 fluoro,

(c) phenyl, and

(d) benzyl,

and wherein p is independently 0, 1, or 2,

(3) -CN,

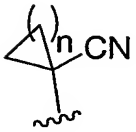
(4) -C_{1-6}alkyl-CN,

(5) halogen,

(6) phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-5 substituents where the substituents are independently selected from:

(a) -CN,
(b) halo,
(c) -C_{1-6}alkyl,
(d) -O-R^5,
(e) -CO_2R^5, and
(f) -C(O)R^5,

(7)



wherein n is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) -C_{1-6}alkyl, -C_{2-6}alkenyl, -C_{2-6}alkynyl, or -C_{3-8}cycloalkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-7 substituents where the substituents are independently selected from:
(a) halo,
(b) hydroxy,
(c) -O-C_{1-6}alkyl,
(d) -C_{3-6}cycloalkyl,
(e) -$S(O)_p$-C_{1-6}alkyl,
(f) -CN,
(g) -CO_2H,
(h) -CO_2-C_{1-6}alkyl,
(i) -CO-NR^5R^6,
(j) phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-5 substituents where the substituents are independently selected from:
(i) -C_{1-6}alkyl,
(ii) -CN,
(iii) halo,
(iv) -CF_3,
(v) -O-R^5, and
(vi) -CO_2R^5,

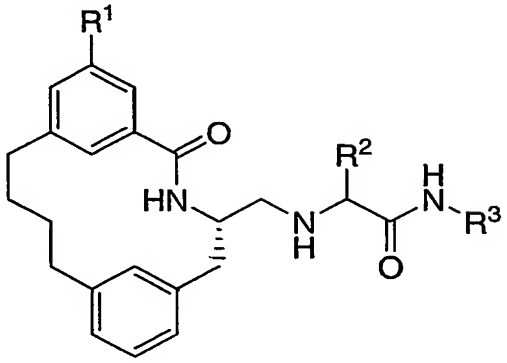
(3) phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-5 substituents where the substituents are independently selected from:
  (a) -C_{1-6}alkyl,
  (b) -CN,
  (c) halo,
  (d) -CF_3,
  (e) -O-R^5, and
  (f) -CO_2R^5;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of:
(1) hydrogen,
(2) -C_{1-6}alkyl, -C_{2-6}alkenyl, -C_{2-6}alkynyl, or -C_{3-8}cycloalkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-7 substituents where the substituents are independently selected from:
  (a) halo,
  (b) hydroxy,
  (c) -O-C_{1-6}alkyl,
  (d) -C_{3-6}cycloalkyl,
  (e) phenyl or pyridyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-5 substituents where the substituents are independently selected from:
    (i) -C_{1-6}alkyl,
    (ii) -CN,
    (iii) halo,
    (iv) -CF_3,
    (v) -O-R^5, and
    (vi) -CO_2R^5,
  (f) -$S(O)_pN(R^5)$-C_{1-6}alkyl, and
  (g) -$S(O)_pN(R^5)$- phenyl,
(3) phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-5 substituents where the substituents are independently selected from:
  (a) -C_{1-6}alkyl,
  (b) -CN,
  (c) halo,
  (d) -CF_3,

(e) -O-R^5, and
(f) -CO_2R^5;

X is selected from the group consisting of:
(1) -CH_2-, and
(2) -O-;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

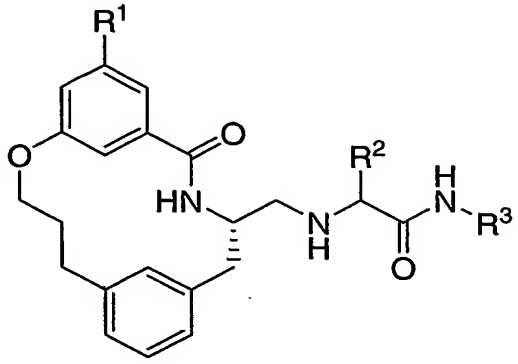
2. The compound of Claim 1 of the formula II:



II.

3. The compound of Claim 2 wherein:
R^1 is selected from:
(1) CH_3-S(O)$_2$N(CH_3)-;
(2) CH_3CH_2-S(O)$_2$N(CH_3)-;
(3) $(CH_3)_2CH$-S(O)$_2$N(CH_3)-;
(4) phenyl-S(O)$_2$N(CH_3)-; and
(5) $(CH_3)_2$N-S(O)$_2$N(CH_3)-;
R^2 is -C_{1-6}alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with cyclopropyl or halo;
R^3 is -C_{1-6}alkyl or -C_{3-8}cycloalkyl; and
X is -CH_2- or -O-;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

4. The compound of Claim 1 of the formula III:



III.

5. The compound of Claim 1 wherein:

R^1 is selected from:

(1) CH_3-$S(O)_2N(CH_3)$-;

(2) CH_3CH_2-$S(O)_2N(CH_3)$-;

(3) $(CH_3)_2CH$-$S(O)_2N(CH_3)$-;

(4) phenyl-$S(O)_2N(CH_3)$-; and

(5) $(CH_3)_2N$-$S(O)_2N(CH_3)$-;

R^2 is -C_{1-6}alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with cyclopropyl or halo;

R^3 is -C_{1-6}alkyl or -C_{3-8}cycloalkyl; and

X is $-CH_2-$ or -O-;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

6. The compound of Claim 1 wherein:

R^1 is R^4-$S(O)_2N(R^5)$-,

wherein R^4 is independently selected from the group consisting of:

(a) -C_{1-6}alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-6 fluoro,

(b) phenyl, and

(c) benzyl,

and wherein R^5 is independently selected from the group consisting of:

(a) hydrogen,

(b) -C_{1-6}alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-6 fluoro,

(c) phenyl, and

(d) benzyl.

7. The compound of Claim 6 wherein R^1 is selected from:

(1) CH_3-$S(O)_2N(CH_3)$-;

(2) CH_3CH_2-$S(O)_2N(CH_3)$-;

(3) $(CH_3)_2CH$-$S(O)_2N(CH_3)$-; and

(4) phenyl-$S(O)_2N(CH_3)$-;

(5) $(CH_3)_2N$-$S(O)_2N(CH_3)$-.

8. The compound of Claim 7 wherein R^1 is CH_3-$S(O)_2N(CH_3)$-.

9. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^2 is -C_{1-6}alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with cyclopropyl or halo.

10. The compound of Claim 9 wherein R^2 is selected from:

(1) CH_3-;

(2) CH_3CH_2-;

(3) $(CH_3)_2CH$-;

(4) $CH_3CH_2CH_2$-;

(5) $(CH_3)_2CHCH_2$-;

(6) $CH_3CH_2CH_2CH_2$-;

(7) $CH_3CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2$-;

(8) cyclopropyl-CH_2-;

(9) CF_3CH_2-; and

(10) CH_2FCH_2-.

11. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^3 is -C_{1-6}alkyl or -C_{3-8}cycloalkyl.

12. The compound of Claim 11 wherein R^3 is selected from:

(1) CH_3-;

(2) CH_3CH_2-;

(3) $(CH_3)_2CH$-;

(4) $CH_3CH_2CH_2$-;

(5) $(CH_3)_2CHCH_2$-;

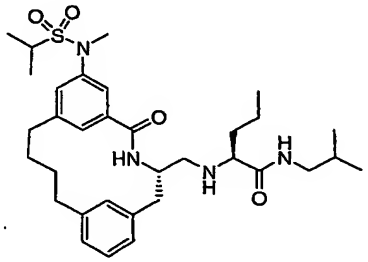
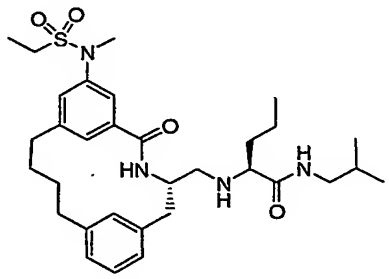
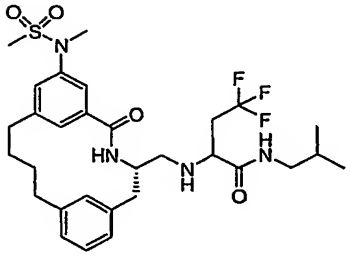
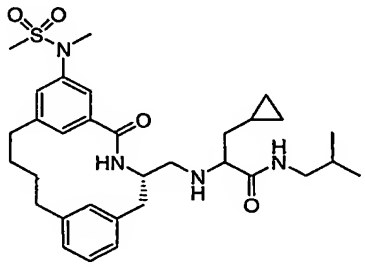
(6) $CH_3CH_2CH_2CH_2$-;

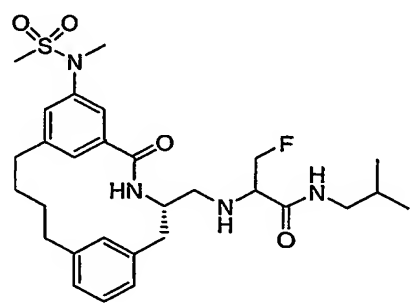
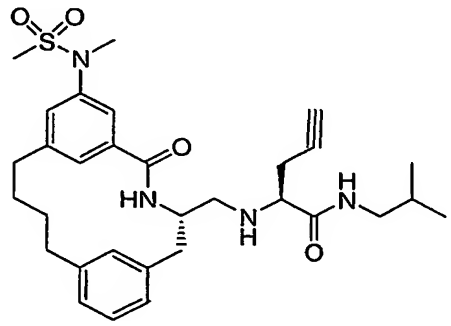
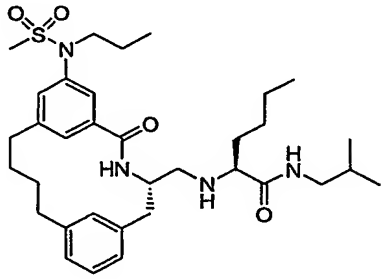
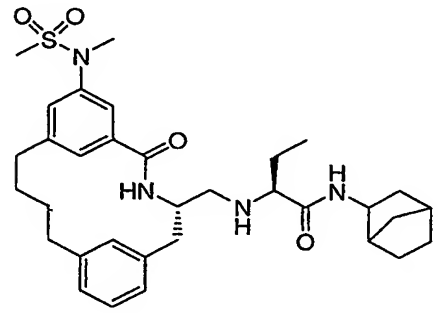
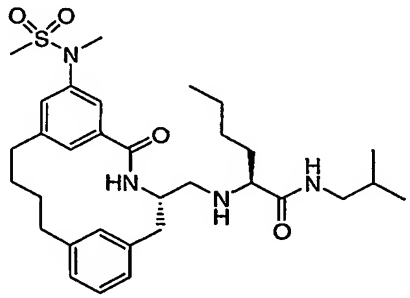
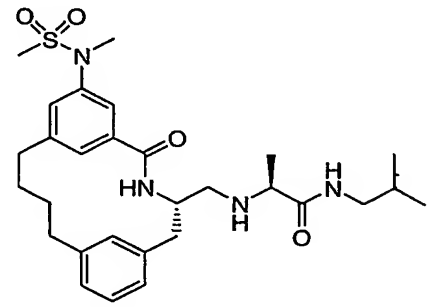
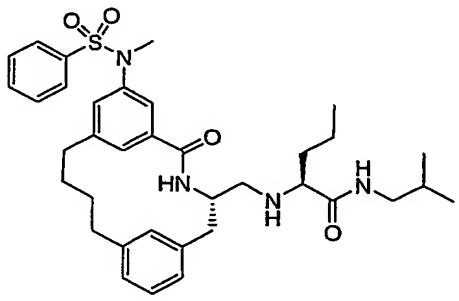
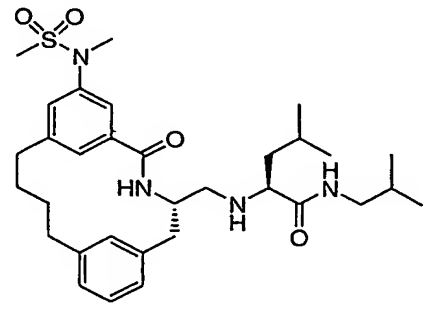
(7) $CH_3CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2$-; and

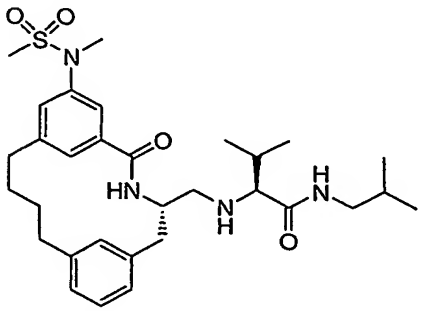
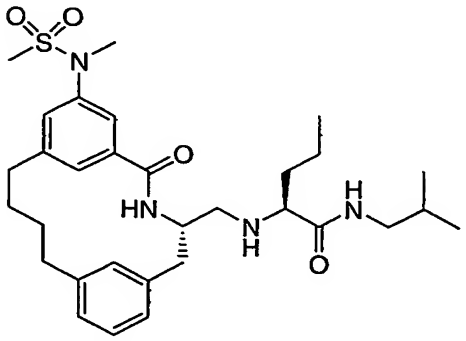
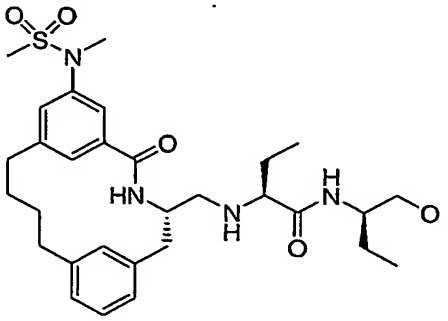
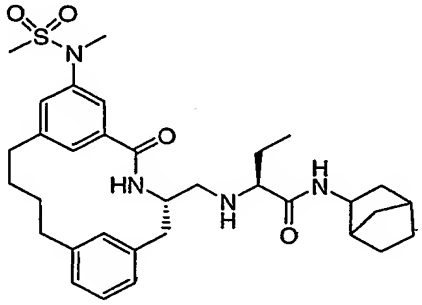
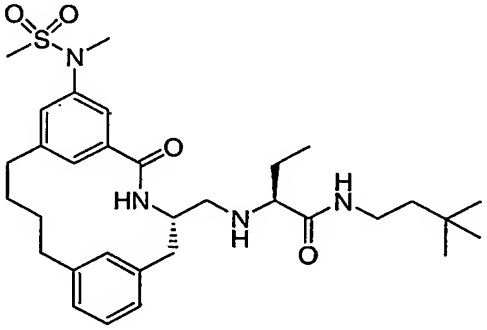
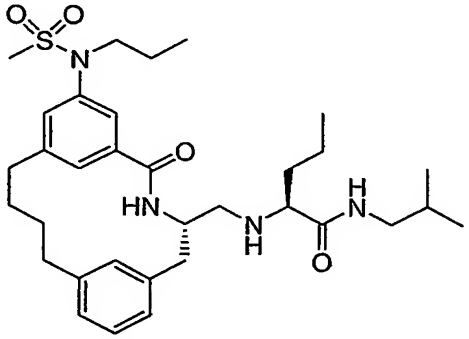
(8) bicyclo[2.2.1]heptyl-.

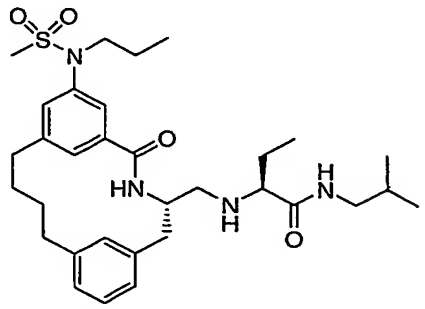
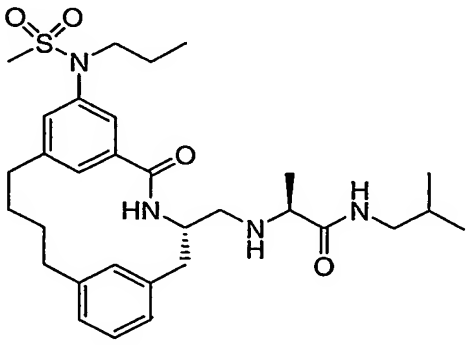
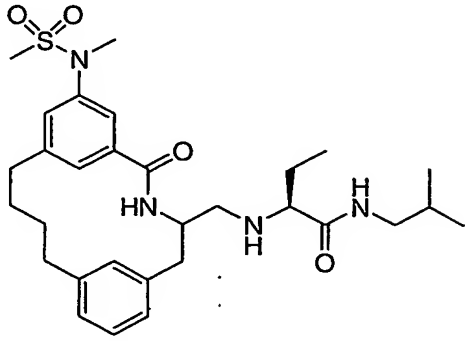
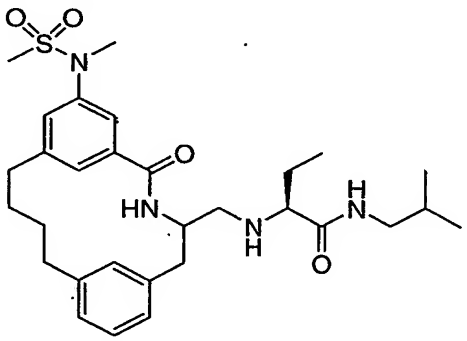
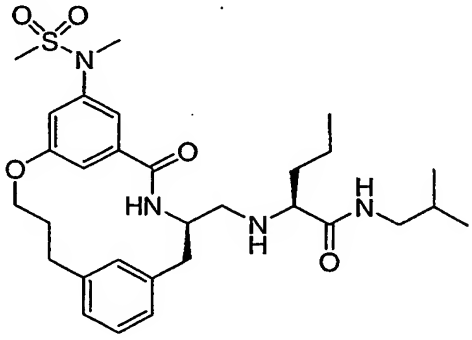
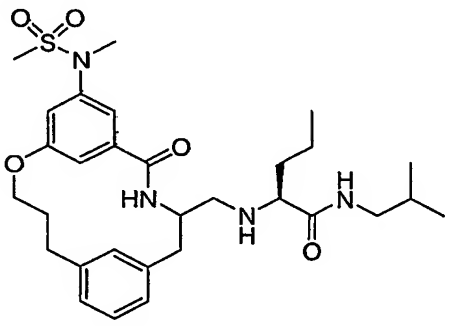
13. The compound of Claim 12 wherein R^3 is $(CH_3)_2CHCH_2$-.

14. A compound which is selected from the group consisting of:

Ex	Structure	Ex	Structure
2		3	
4		5	

Ex	Structure	Ex	Structure
6		7	
8		9	
10		11	
12		13	

Ex	Structure	Ex	Structure
14		15	
16		17	
18		19	

Ex	Structure	Ex	Structure
20		21	
22		23	
24		25	

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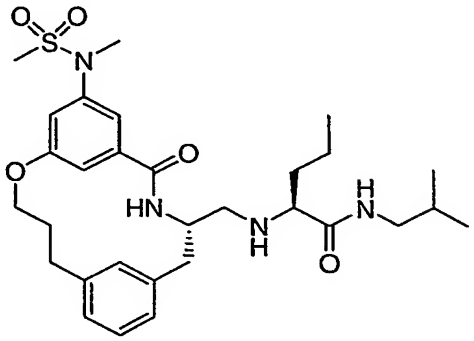
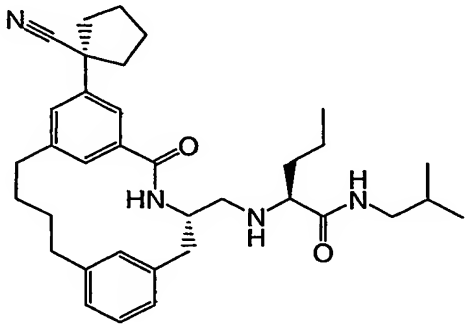
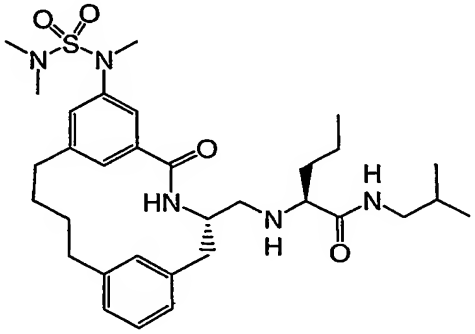
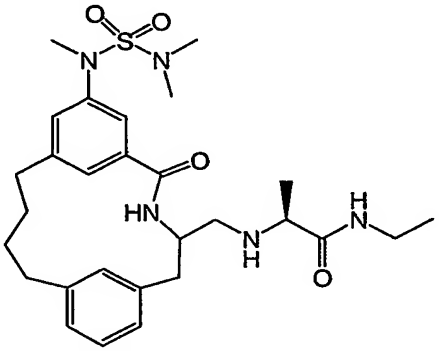
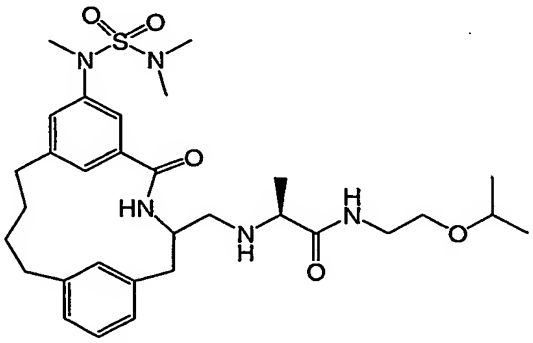
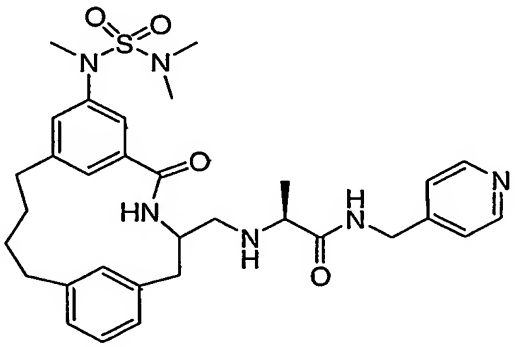
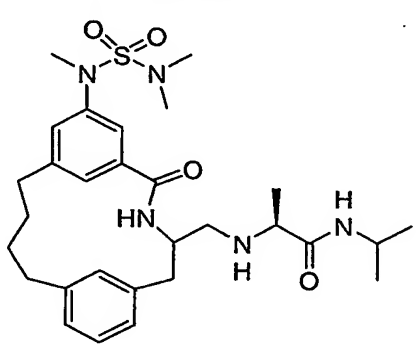
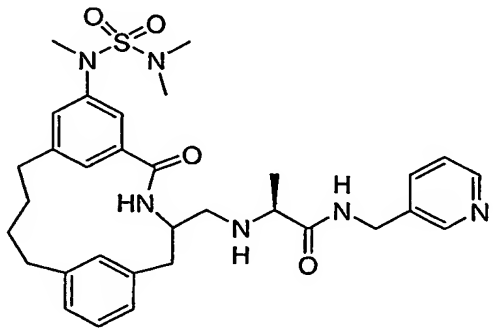
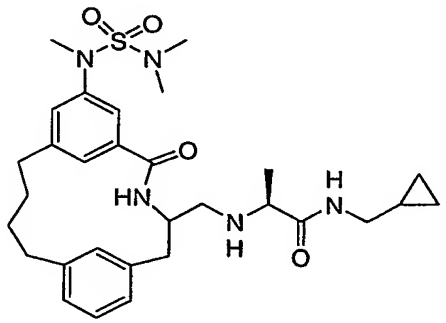
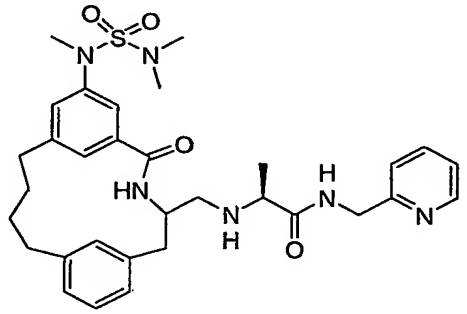
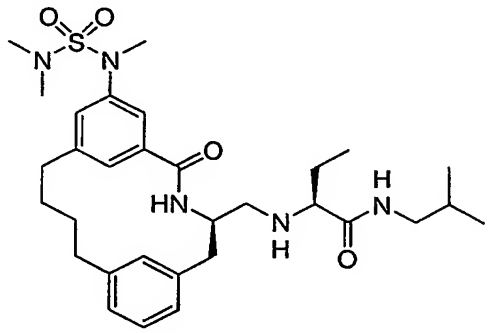
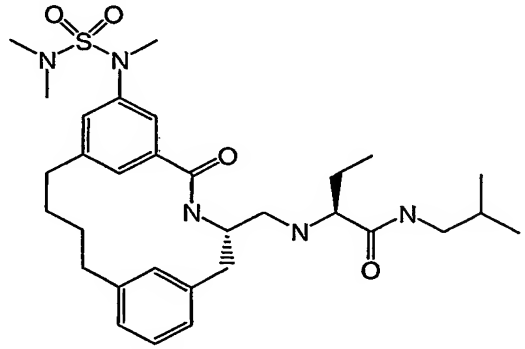
26		27	
28		29	
30		31	

Ex	Structure	Ex	Structure
32		33	
34		35	
36		37	

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. A method for inhibition of β-secretase activity in a mammal in need thereof which comprises administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

17. A method for treating Alzheimer's disease in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.